



U.S. GREAT LAKES MERCHANT SEAMAN EMPLOYMENT FACT SHEET (April 2012)

The focus of this Fact Sheet is to provide a concentrated resource for obtaining mariner employment on U.S.-flag, Great Lakes' commercial vessels. Some vessel operators directly employ unlicensed seamen, while others are required by contract to hire only from union offices. Many employment sources on the Lakes are noted; however, this is not a comprehensive listing. All commercial vessel employment requires a Merchant Mariner Document. This can be obtained through any U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Center; although, the only Center on the Lakes is located in Toledo, OH. An added requirement is a Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC), which is issued by the Transportation Security Administration. An up to date physical examination, a current drug screen, and proof of citizenship may be required by the employer. Fare well in your employment search.

LICENSING / MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT

Regional Examination Center 419-418-6010 www.uscg.mil/nmc/recs/tol.asp
U.S. Coast Guard, Toledo, OH

TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL (TWIC)

Transportation Security Administration 866-347-8942 www.tsa.gov/twic

LICENSED OFFICER EMPLOYMENT

American Maritime Officers 419-255-3940 www.amo-union.org
Int'l Org. of Masters, Mates, & Pilots 216-776-1667 www.bridgedeck.org
Marine Engineers Beneficial Assoc. 216-579-6322 www.d1meba.org

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / UNION HIRING

Seafarers International Union/NMU 810-794-4988 (MI) www.seafarers.org
815-723-8002 (IL)
United Steelworkers Local 5000 440-243-7000 web – none

UNLICENSED SEAMAN / COMPANIES CONDUCTING DIRECT HIRING

American Steamship Co. 716-635-0222 x1371 www.americansteamship.com
Central Marine Logistics 219-922-2644 www.centralmarinelogistics.com
Grand River Navigation 440-930-2024 web - none
Great Lakes Fleet/Key Lakes, Inc. 218-723-2420 www.greatlakesfleet.com
Interlake Steamship Co. 330-659-1400 x1140 www.interlakesteamship.com
Lake Express Ferry 866-914-1010 www.lake-express.com
Lake Michigan Car Ferry 231-843-1509 www.ssbadger.com
Père Marquette Shipping Co. 231-845-7846 www.pmship.com

SUPPLEMENTAL WEB SITES

Great Lakes Maritime Academy – www.nmc.edu/maritime Licensing Service – www.seakslicensing.com
Great Lakes Ports Assoc. – www.greatlakesports.org Marine Delivers – www.marinedelivers.com
Great Lakes & Seaway Shipping – www.boatnerd.com Marine Weather – www.weather.gov/greatlakes
International Shipmasters' Assoc. - www.shipmaster.org Seaway System - www.greatlakes-seaway.com
Lake Carriers' Assoc. – www.lcaships.com U.S. GL Shipping Assoc. – www.usglsa.org

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION'S WEB ASSISTANCE

www.marad.dot.gov → across the top of the page, select "Education" and "Mariners" tabs for these subjects:

- Mariner Education: U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, MARAD's Fire Training Center, & state schools
- Employment: Career and veteran information – shipbuilding & repair employment